An Account of a Book, Entituled

X. Samuelis Dale *Pharmacologiæ ſeu Manuductionis ad Materiam Medicam Supplementum : Medicamenta Officinalia ſimplicia, priore Libro omiſſa, complectens : Ut & Notas Generum Characteriſticas, Specierum Synonyma, Differentias, & Vires. Cum duplici Indice, generali altero Nominum & Synonymorum præcipuorum, altero Anglico-Latino, in gratiam Tyronum.*

IN the year 1693 our Author publiſhed his *Pharmacologia ſeu Manuductio ad Materiam Medicam*, of which an Account was given in theſe *Tranſactions*, (*viz.*) N. 204. pag. 929. After the publiſhing of which, he obſerved an Increaſe of the *Materia Medica*, many Medicinal Simples being uſed in the Shops, and likewiſe he met with ſeveral Books relating thereto, which either were not then publiſhed, or had not come to his knowledge before. And our Author having alſo received advice from divers Ingenious perſons, who had travelled into Foreign Countries, that his aforeſaid Book was well received, not only in *France* and *Holland*, but likewiſe in *Italy* and the remoter parts of *Germany*, made him think a Supplement neceſſary to render it more uſeful to other Countries: And becauſe it has extended its progreſs to the Neighbourhood of *Greece*, that ancient Fountain of Learning, he concluded, that it would not be improper to add out of *Dioſcorides* and the Foreign Diſpenſatories, all thoſe things which he had omitted publiſhing: And that in a

Book by themſelves, without ſtaying for the reprinting of the former Book.

Our Author had made a conſiderable Progreſs in his deſign, when he received advice that Monſieur *Tournefort* was, by the *French* Kings Order, gone into *Greece* and the adjacent Iſlands, in ſearch of Plants, eſpecially thoſe of *Dioſcorides*; this occaſioned him to ſtop the proſecution of his Work for ſome years, in hopes that great and accurate Botaniſt would upon his return gratifie the Curious with his Diſcoveries of the true and genuine Plants of the Ancient *Grecians*, which had perplext the Herbariſts of our late Ages.

In this Supplement our Author took care to ſet the *Materia Medica* of *Dioſcorides* in a clear light; and for that end conſulted all the Authors that he could meet with upon that ſubject, keeping as cloſe as he could to his Text, in which he chiefly adhered to the Tranſlation and Commentary of *Matthiolus*. And becauſe in this performance he travelled in an untrodden path, knowing of no precedent in any Language, he therefore conſulted both the Dead and Living, (*i. e.*) not only Books, but many Perſons of Ingenuity and Learning. The nature of the Work requiring the Virtues of each Simple to be annext, and the deſign of the Book requiring Brevity, he choſe to tranſcribe them from Authors, which had already contracted to his hand; but at the ſame time, to avoid the Imputation of *Plagiariſm*, he at the end of every Tranſcription inſerted the Name of the reſpective Author: Nor did he think it any diſcredit to him, that he had the aſſiſtance of others, but rather a Glory, and therefore doth throughout the Work acknowledge the Perſons he had advice from.

This Book being only a Supplement to the former Work, as I ſaid before, is divided according to [illegible] and therefore need not here to repeat [illegible] to give

give a ſhort account of ſome things in the Work it ſelf. In the firſt Book of which, our Author in the Chapter of Waters takes notice, that *Cold Baths* were in uſe among the Ancients in the Cure of many Diſeaſes; and that they are commended by divers Learned Phyſicians, and eſpecially by Sir *John Floyer*, Kt, and *Dr Baynard*; the firſt of which, in his Excellent Ψυχρολουσία, hath enumerated the ſeveral ſorts of Cold-Baths, and the many Cures perform'd by them. He likewiſe takes notice of the divers ways of making *Salt* from *Sea-Water*; firſt by inſolation only, as *Bay Salt*, the Sea-Water being in hot Countries grained in Pans called *Salt-Marſhes*; 2dly, partly by the Sun, and partly by Fire, as *Port-Sea-Salt* at *Limmington* in *Hampſhire*; 3dly, by Boyling only, as *Newcaſtle* and *Scotch Salt*. To theſe he adds the manner of making Salt from Sea-Sand in *Lançaſhire* and other places; and likewiſe obſerves, that both *Speed* and *Camden* did take notice of the Evaporation of Sea Water into Salt, by the Sun, in the hollows of certain Stones in the Biſhoprick of *Durham*.

In the Chapter of Mineral Waters, he takes notice of their ſeveral diviſions and ſorts made by his Neighbour *Mr Allen*, in his Book of the *Chalybeat and Purging Waters in* England. And in the Chapter of Salts, beſides many Curious Notes concerning the Cryſtals of *Salt*, *Sal-Gem*, *Niter*, *Allum*, and *Vitriol* excerpted from the *Exercitationes de Fontibus Medicatis Angliæ*, of his Learned Friend *Dr Martin Liſter*; he takes notice of a ſort of Salt made at *Maldon* in *Eſſex*, called *Salt upon Salt*, by the diſſolving *Rock Salt* found in *Cheſhire*, in Sea Water.

In the Chapter of *Stones*, our Author obſerves, that the *Adarce* of *Dr Plot* is nothing but an Incruſtation, occaſioned upon the mixing a Chalybeat Water near its ſourſe with another from a gravelly ſoil, which by diluting the firſt, cauſes the precipitation.

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In the 2d Book our Author ſhews that the *Poco Sempie*, or *Golden Moſs*, of *Dr Grew*, ſo celebrated in an *Hæmoptyſis*, is only the Down of the Root of a ſort of Fern, growing in *Tartary* or *China*; which Root he conjectures to be the *Agnus Scythicus*, of which Authors write ſo many Fabulous Stories. He ennumerates the many Controverſies among Botanick Authors about *Wormſeed*, concluding it to be the Seed of a ſort of *Wormwood*. The famous *Cylonian Plant* againſt Deafneſs, of *Mr Marlow*, he affirms to be a ſort of Mint; *Ipecacuanha* to be the Root of an *American* Herb, near a kind to the *Herba Paris*: *Aniſum Judicum* to be the Seed-Veſſel of a ſort of *Fraxinella*. The *Star of the Earth*, (ſo call'd,) in a famous Receipt againſt the biting of *Mad-Dogs*, he proves to be the *Coronopus*, and not the *Seſamoides Salamanticum Magnum*, which ſome miſtake it for. *Soia*, of which *Ketchup* is made, is the Seed of an *Indian Phaſeolus*; as *Angola Seeds* are thoſe of an *Abrus*, and *Ruſſia Seed* of the *Gramen Mannæ*. *Salep*, *Caſſumminiar* and *Dart-wort*, are 3 Roots; the firſt of a ſort of *Orchis*, the ſecond of a Species of *Galanga*, and the laſt of an *Indian Reed*.

In the *Dendrology* our Author demonſtrates *Palm-Oyl* to be made of the Fruit of an *African Palm-tree*: *Maldiva*, and *Malabar-Nuts* to be likewiſe the Fruits of two *Indian Palms*, as *Sagoe* is the *fæces* of the Pitch of another *Palm* granulated. He obſerves the various ſorts of *Dragons Blood* now to be found in the Shops; and gives a farther account of the Tree which yields the famous *Peruvian Bark*. He acquaints us what Trees or Shrubs they are which do produce the Simples publiſhed by the late *Mr Marlow*, under the feigned titles of *Virginia* and *Molucca Nuts*, *Bengala Beans* and *Bermudos Berries*, *Caſſina*, and *Perygua*. The *Faba Sancti Ignatij* he proves to be a ſort of *Nux Vomica*.

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In the third and laſt Book, our Author gives ſome farther account of the *Cochinele*, proving it to be of animal production, and that it is not any of *Engliſh Ladycow*, as ſome have affirm'd: The *Gloſſopetra* he believes to be the petrified Teeth of Sharks. Concerning the *Serpentine ſtone*, he takes notice of the difference in Authors about it, *viz.* whether it is a Natural or Artificial production, and whether it hath the Virtue to expel Poiſon in Venemous bites or not? He enumerates the ſeveral aſſertions of the Learned *pro & con*, quoting divers of their Experiments, and at laſt concludes, that both Natural and Artificial are to be met with, and that the different operations muſt ariſe from thence. *Pedro del porco* our Author affirms to be only an *Ægagropila* found in the Stomach of a *Porcupine*. To theſe he adds ſome Obſervations taken from *F. Camilli* his Papers, not only concerning this Stone, but likewiſe *Bezoars*. The whole Book abounds with many Curious Obſervations, for the farther dilucidation of the *Materia Medica*, which we recommend to the peruſal of the Curious.

London, Printed for *Sam. Smith* and *Benj. Walford*, Printers to the Royal Society, at the *Prince's Arms* in *St Paul's Church-yard*, 1706.

ERRATA.

N. B. In *Philoſ. Tranſact.* N. 305. Page 2195. Line 32. read *writ* VIIII *as well as* IX.